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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Reptilia, Squamata, Dipsadidae, *Pseudotomodon trigonatus* (Leybold, 1873): Distribution extension

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Pseudotomodon trigonatus (Leybold, 1873) is a small-sized dipsadid snake (about 450 mm total length) endemic to Argentina (Figure 1). It is the single species of the genus, and its geographic distribution ranges through the western and southern areas of Monte phytogeographic region and neighboring areas (Cei 1986; Scrocchi 1997; Avila 1997; Tiranti and Avila 1997; Avila et al. 1998; Giraudo and Scrocchi 2002). In Chubut province is known only from Puerto Madryn, in northwestern Chubut (Scolaro and Cei 1979) and from an area near Punta Tombo, about 120 km S of the previous record (Cruz et al. 1999). In a recent field guide (Scolaro 2005) the geographic distribution outlined is restrict the species to the northeast corner of Chubut Province.

Figure 1. *Pseudotomodon trigonatus* from Ruta Nacional 25, Valle de las Ruinas, Chubut province, central Patagonia, Argentina.

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I present herein a new record for the species in Chubut province (Figure 2), based on a male specimen collected dead (~SVL = 352 mm) during a field herpetological survey carried out in November 4th, 2008 on *Ruta Nacional* 25, 10 km E Los Altares town in the Valle de Las Ruinas of central Rio Chubut region, Paso de Indios Department, Chubut Province (43°51'54.0" S, 68°21'26.4" W, 243 m). Vegetation in the area is predominantly typical of the Patagonian Steppe with some sparse creosote bushes (*Larrea* spp.) usually common in the Monte phytogeographic region. Distance from locality recorded by Cruz et al. (1999) is around 250 km straight line to the west, representing thus the westernmost vouchered record for this species and extending its distribution to central Chubut province. The snake was deposited in the herpetological collection of the *Centro Nacional Patagonico* under the number LJAMM CENPAT 11082.

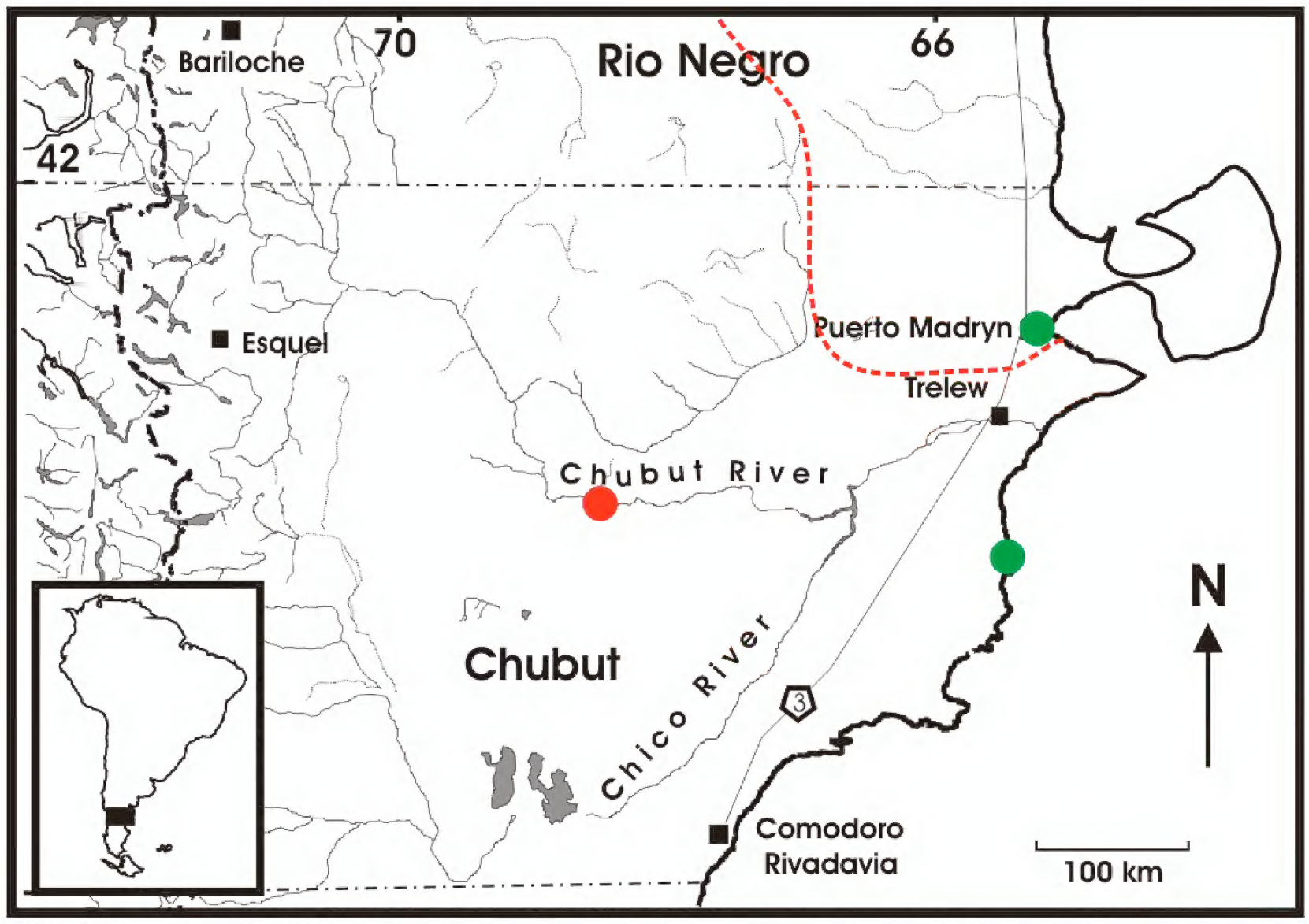

Figure 2. Red dot: new locality for *Pseudotomodon trigonatus*. Green dotted circles: bibliographic records for Chubut province (Scolaro and Cei 1979; Cruz et al. 1999). Red dotted line: Approximate limit of distribution according to Scolaro (2005). Geographic landmarks in the region are marked as reference.

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